## SUBSTITUTE ABSTRACT

A heat-insulating material has a melting point above 2500°C, a thermal expansion coefficient in excess of 8 x  $10^{-6}$  K<sup>-1</sup>, and a sintering temperature greater than 1400°C. It has a perovskite structure of the general formula  $A_{1+r}(B'_{1/3+x}B''_{2/3+y})O_{3+z}$  where

A = at least one element of the group (Ba, Sr, Ca, Be),
B' = at least one element of the group (Mg, Ca, Sr, Ba,
Be),

 $B'' = at least one element of the group (Ta, Nb), r, x, and <math>z \neq 0$ , and

-0.1 < r, x, y, z < 0.1;

or of the general formula  $A_{1+r}(B'_{1/2+x}B''_{1/2+y})O_{3+z}$  where A and B'' are as above and

B'= at least one element of the group (Al, La, Nd, Gd, Er, Lu, Dy, Tb), and

-0.1 < r, x, y, z < 0.1.